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PATENT

Docket No. H 5716-I

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Serial No.: PCT/EP03/04306

Inventor: Giordani et al.

International Filing Date: 25 April 2003

Priority Date: 15 October 2002

Title: Pickling or Brightening/Passivating Solution and Process
for Steel and Stainless Steel

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450


Sir:

Transmitted herewith is an Information Disclosure Statement ("IDS") in the above-referenced application, together with an IDC form listing all references.

Some of the references are neither in English nor cited in the accompanying English language version of a search report by another patent office, and therefore require a concise explanation of relevancy, as it is currently understood by the applicant, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3). This required explanation of relevancy is given in the specification of the above captioned application for the following reference: IT 1246262 that is located on page 7, lines 30-32. German language reference DE 3742367 is accompanied by an English language abstract that addresses the relevancy of this reference.

Respectfully submitted,

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Enclosure

1. International Search Report (English Language)
2. IDC w/references

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO			Complete if Known		
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i>			Application Number		
			Filing Date		
			First Named Inventor	Giordani et al.	
			Art Unit		
			Examiner Name		
Sheet	1	of		Attorney Docket Number	H5716-I

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number Number - Kind Code ² (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		US-6,312,812 B1	11/06/2001	Hauser et al.	
		US-3,025,189	03/13/1962	Arden	
		US-6,194,369 B1	02/27/2001	Eberhardt et al.	
		US-4,502,925	03/05/1985	Walls	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Country	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ -Number ⁴ - Kind Code ² (if known)				
		DE 198 28 811 C1	12/09/1999	Germany (US6194369)		
		EP 0 596 273 A1	05/11/1994	Europe		
		JP 02-121689 A	04/26/2002	Japan		
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		GB 2 265 612 A	10/06/1993	Great Britain		
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		IT 1246262	11/17/1994	Italy		
		WO 97/43463 A1	11/20/1997	PCT		
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		WO 2004/02077 A1	03/11/2004	PCT		X
		EP 0 795 628 B1	05/23/2001	Europe		
		EP 1 050 605 B1	10/27/2004	Europe		
		DE 37 42 367 A1	06/22/1989	Germany		

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date page(s), volume-issue Number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ²
		Patent Abstracts of Japan, Vol. 2002, No. 8 for JP 2002 121689 (2002)	
		Ullmanns Encyklopadie der technischen Chemie, 4 th Edition, Vol 22, pgs. 106-112	
		German Industrial Standard DIN 17440, "Stainless steels; technical delivery conditions for plates, hot rolled strip, wire rods, drawn wire, bars, forging and semi-finished products", pgs. 1-26, July 1985	

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ²See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English Language Translation is attached. This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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